

# **INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL**

<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Storage/HH/IJC/Superior/index.shtml>

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** January 2, 2003  
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## **LAKE SUPERIOR OUTFLOW CONDITIONS**

The International Lake Superior Board of Control, under the authority granted to it by the International Joint Commission, has set the Lake Superior outflow to 1,910 cubic meters per second ( $\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ ) (67.5 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of January. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of January and is a decrease from the December outflow of 2,080  $\text{m}^3/\text{s}$  (73.5 tcfs).

The January outflow will be released by discharging about 1,806  $\text{m}^3/\text{s}$  (63.8 tcfs) through the three hydropower plants and passing most of the remaining flow through the control structure at the head of the St. Marys rapids. The gate setting of the control structure will be maintained at the existing setting equivalent to one-half gate open (four gates open 25 cm, or about 10 inches each). There will be no change to the setting of Gate #1 that supplies the Fishery Remedial Works.

The December water supplies to Lake Superior and to Lakes Michigan-Huron were well below average. This past month the level of Lake Superior declined by 10 centimeters (cm) (4 inches), whereas it usually declines by 8 centimeter (cm) (3 inches) in December. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 16 cm (6 inches) below its long-term average beginning of January level and about 6 cm (2 inches) below the level recorded last year. The level of Lake Superior is now 2 cm (1 inch) above its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron also declined by more than its usual amount in December. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is about 47 cm (18 inches) below its long-term average beginning of January level, and is now about 14 cm (6 inches) below the level recorded last year. Lakes Michigan-Huron's level is now 12 cm (5 inches) below its chart datum level, but is still 28 cm (11 inches) above its record low beginning-of-January level. The Board continues to monitor conditions both on Lake Superior and downstream and will advise the International Joint Commission accordingly on those conditions.

Brigadier General Steven R. Hawkins, Commander, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is the United States Board Member. Mr. Peter Yee has been appointed as the Board Member for Canada.

For further information please contact Carl Woodruff as indicated above.

The Internet homepage at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/> provides access to additional information.